<div align="center">**Remarks**</div>

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed October 16, 2007.

I.   Summary of Examiner's Rejections

Prior to the Office Action mailed October 16, 2007, Claims 1-2, 4-10, 12-17, 20-27, 37-42, and 44-48 were pending in the Application. In the Office Action, Claims 1-2, 4-10, 12-17, 20-27, 37-42, and 44-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory matter. Claims 1-2, 4-10, 12-17, 20-27, 37-42, and 44-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Van Huben et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,327,594, hereafter Van Huben).

II.   Summary of Applicants' Amendment

The current Response amends Claims 1, 4-6, 17, 21-23, 25-27, 37, and 45-46, and cancels Claims 9-10, 12-16, and 38-40, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration Claims 1-2, 4-8, 17, 20-27, 37, 41, and 44-48. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to prosecute any originally presented or cancelled claims in a continuing or future application.

III.   Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101

In the Office Action mailed October 16, 2007, Claims 1-2, 4-10, 12-17, 20-27, 37-42, and 44-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory matter.

First, it is respectfully submitted that data structures in the present application should be considered "functional descriptive material." "Functional descriptive material" is defined as consisting of data structures and computer programs which impart functionality when employed as a computer component (see MPEP 2106.01). It is respectfully submitted that the data structures in the present application do impart functionality in that the data structures are logically part of a virtual content repository that represent s a plurality of content repositories as a single repository. Furthermore, as amended, references to a parent and a child within the VCR enables traversal of the VCR.

Second, having established that the data structures in the present application are "functional descriptive material," it is also respectfully submitted that the Claims in the application are statutory because the data structures are stored in memory, thus being embodied on computer-readable media.

<div align="center">- 8 -</div>

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in this application do conform to the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §101. Reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

IV.   Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

In the Office Action mailed October 16, 2007, Claims 1-2, 4-10, 12-17, 20-27, 37-42, and 44-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Van Huben et al., (U.S. Patent No. 6,327,594, hereafter Van Huben).

Claim 1

Claim 1 has been amended by the current Response to more clearly define the embodiment of the invention therein. As amended, Claim 1 defines:

> 1.   (Currently Amended) A memory for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising:
>
> a data structure stored in said memory, the data structure including or referring to:
>> a name;
>> a content repository identifier;
>> a plurality of properties;
>> a plurality of property definitions associated with the plurality of properties;
>> a reference to a parent data structure in a virtual content repository (VCR); and
>> a reference to a child data structure in the VCR;
>> wherein the data structure is logically part of the VCR, and wherein the VCR represents a plurality of content repositories logically as a single content repository from the application program's viewpoint; and
>> wherein the reference to a parent data structure and the reference to a child data structure enables traversal of the VCR.

Claim 1, as amended, defines a memory for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising a data structure stored in said memory, the data structure including or referring to a reference to a parent data structure in a VCR and a

reference to a child data structure in the VCR. The references to parent and child data structures enable traversal of the VCR. Applicants respectfully submit that these features are not disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

In view of the above comments, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1, as amended, is neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claim 17

Claim 17 has been amended by the current Response to more clearly define the embodiment of the invention therein. As amended, Claim 17 defines:

17.   (Currently Amended) A memory for storing virtual content repository (VCR) information for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising:

a data structure stored in said memory, the data structure including:

a root node;

a first set of nodes wherein each node in the first set is hierarchically related in the VCR to at least one other node in the first set, and wherein all nodes in the first set are hierarchically inferior to the root node;

a second set of nodes associated with the first set of nodes, wherein the second set of nodes provides schema information for the first set of nodes;

wherein the schema information provides information regarding nodes, its children in the VCR, and its parent in the VCR in the first set of nodes;

wherein the VCR represents a plurality of content repositories logically as a single content repository from the application program's viewpoint;

wherein each one of the first set of nodes has an identifier that indicates its logical location in a hierarchy in the VCR formed by the first set of nodes;

wherein each one of the first set of nodes represents one of: 1) a node container; 2) repository content; and 3) a repository; and

wherein each one of the first set of nodes is associated with the at least one property.

Claim 17, as amended, defines a memory for storing VCR information comprising a data structure in memory including a first set of nodes wherein each node in the first set is hierarchically related in the VCR to at least one other node in the first set. Schema information provides information regarding nodes, its children in the VCR, and its parent in the VCR. Applicants respectfully submit that these features are not disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

In view of the above comments, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 17, as amended, is neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claim 37

Claim 37 has been amended by the current Response to more clearly define the embodiment of the invention therein. As amended, Claim 37 defines:

> 37.   (Currently Amended) A memory for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising:
>
> a plurality of first objects to provide a first group of services related to interacting with a hierarchical namespace, wherein the first group of services comprise first functions that enable associating the plurality of first objects with locations in the namespace;
>
> a plurality of second objects to provide a second group of services related to associating information with the first object, wherein the second group of services comprise second functions that enable creating, reading, updating, and deleting the information;
>
> a plurality of third objects to provide a third group of services related to describing attributes of the plurality of second objects, wherein the third group of services comprise third functions that enable specifying at least one of the following for the plurality of objects:
>
> property choices;
>
> > a reference;
> >
> > a data type;
> >
> > whether the property is mandatory;
> >
> > whether the property is multi-valued;
> >
> > whether the property is primary;

> whether the property is read-only; and
>
> whether the property is restricted;
>
> wherein the plurality of first objects is logically part of a virtual content repository (VCR) and includes a reference to a parent object in the VCR and a reference to a child object in the VCR, and wherein the VCR represents a plurality of content repositories logically as a single content repository from the application program's viewpoint.

Claim 37, as amended, defines a memory for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising a plurality of first objects to provide a first group of services related to interacting with a hierarchical namespace, wherein the first group of services comprise first functions that enable associating the plurality of first objects with locations in the namespace, a plurality of second objects to provide a second group of services related to associating information with the first object, wherein the second group of services comprise second functions that enable creating, reading, updating, and deleting the information, and a plurality of third objects to provide a third group of services related to describing attributes of the plurality of second objects. Applicants respectfully submit that these features are not disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

In view of the above comments, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 37, as amended, is neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 4-8, 20-27, 41-42, and 44-48

Dependent Claims 2, 4-8, 20-27, 41-42, and 44-48 are not addressed separately, but it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable as depending from an allowable independent claim and further in view of the additional limitations of these claims. Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2, 4-8, 20-27, 41-42, and 44-48 are similarly neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of, the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. It is also respectfully submitted that these claims also add their own limitations which render them patentable in their own right. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to argue these limitations should it become necessary in the future.

Claims 9-10, 12-16, and 38-40

- 12 -

Claims 9-10, 12-16, and 38-40 have been canceled by the present Response, render moot the rejection of these claims. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to prosecute the canceled claims in a continuing or future application.

V.   Conclusion

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this reply, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 16, 2008

By: /Guanyao Cheng/
     Guanyao Cheng
     Reg. No. 58,555

Customer No. 23910
FLIESLER MEYER LLP
650 California Street, 14th Floor
San Francisco, California 94108
Telephone: (415) 362-3800

- 13 -